

RECKLESS RALPH'S

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP



A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Vol. 19, No. 8

August 1951

Whole No. 227

## 19th CENTURY PEEP-SHOW

by Fred T. Singleton

### III

Before passing on to a collector friend—"one who really collects," as Charles Austin used to say—a bound run of the first seventy-eight numbers of Reynolds' Miscellany, 1846-1848, we should like to get in these paragraphs at this time a note on Wagner the Wehr-Wolf, the "weird, mysterious, and magical" romance which began in No. 1 and was concluded in No. 38 (no instalments in No. 35 and No. 37 due to the illness of the author) for a total of seventy-seven chapters in small type, for that's the way they liked their reading a hundred years ago—almost microscopic print and plenty of it. Few folk bothered about spectacles. This romantic writing was sweated out by George W. M. Reynolds himself, and had enough lure about it at that time to insure the success of his own penny weekly from the start. The tale is based on the Faust legend, always a popular theme in mid-Victorian days, and still respected by today's slickest writers. It is the ever green story of the man who hands over his soul to the Devil, a super-persuader at any time, for what he thinks is value received, in this case restoration to a feeble old man of his youth, after he shudderingly agrees to the awful condition that on the last day of every month his natural form must be exchanged for that of a ravenous wolf, "in which horrible shape he must remain until the moment when the morrow's sun dawns upon the earth." For one night a month he must prey upon the human race, hated by wolves and devils alike. "Hesitate not," added the mysterious visitor to the old man's hut, "I have not time to waste bandying words." Yes, the poor old man falls for Satan's "glorious boon," and then plunges headlong, with much pain and little pleasure, through thirty-six sensational instalments.

Nearly every nickel novel about raw Injins we read in the 1880's had a white renegade for the heavy villain, a beautiful copper-colored or captured white maiden for the heroine, and an attempted burning at the stake of the hero for the big thrill, usually in the early chapters. How to rescue the brave young feller from the red fiends provided a test of the author's originality and descriptive powers. The writer on whom we pinned a medal for his up to date rescue was Frank Dumont, whose Red Tomahawk or the Renegade's Daughter (Nickel Library No. 75) was one of our earliest delights. In the third chapter Dumont introduces Eli Risley, a fantastically-attired adventurous genius on his way to the Pacific slope with an outfit of mechanical wonders, including one of Edison's new phonographs, in boxes and bundles on the back of a small but stout donkey. Gaining the crest of a ridge he catches sight of the Sioux wigwams and hears the yells of the savages dancing around their intended victim, about whom the flames were just beginning to crackle. Hurrily unpacking the phonograph, he wraps a sheet of tinfoil around the

cylinder and speaks into the funnel. Then advancing toward the torture scene with the phonograph he suddenly rushes forward. "Hold! Hold!" he cried, "I have a message from the Great Spirit." And then, amid the stillness of death: "I am angry with my red children! Release the paleface at the stake and let him depart." It must have been a strange tinfoily voice that came out of that funnel, but believe it or not it worked. Every painted warrior fell to the earth as if struck dead. Quick as a flash Risley severed the prisoner's bonds and both managed to escape. Dumont used the phonograph idea while it was hot. Edison came through with the talking machine in 1877, and Nickel Library No. 75 (the original series) was published in 1878. That's the copyright date on our copy, not the one we read in boyhood days but a later reprint.

### OLD-TIME BOYS' BOOKS

by J. Edward Leithead

There was a time, now long ago, when the youth of America read a lot of cloth-bound books along with the dime novel. Some of these books were, in fact, also published in paperback form. Quite a few authors became famous writing them, and their works were referred to as "standard juveniles."

At Christmas, and at other times when a gift to a boy was in order, like his birthday or the awarding of a prize for record attendance at Sunday school, very often it was one of these standard juveniles that he received. Perhaps there weren't as many clothbound titles published and sold as there were dime and nickel novels (a good cloth-bound edition cost \$1.00 or \$1.25, though some were 75 cents, other editions as low as "35 cents each or any three books for \$1.00"); still, there were unnumbered thousands of these books, and the juvenile section of public libraries always had a large selection of the more popular ones—but try to find them today. The best editions were really handsome books, with their colorful cover designs, printed on good paper and always illustrated. As soon as one edition was exhausted, another was printed, so that almost any title of any well-known author of boys' stories could be bought brand-new at any time.

Probably the most famous of all these old-time authors was Horatio Alger, Jr. So much has been written about Alger and his works that I hardly think there is anything new I can add. I was a faithful Alger reader myself, and when I went to school, boys often carried a copy or two of Alger strapped in with their school books, either carrying them home to read (if no opportunity offered to do a little previewing in school hours) or bringing read copies to swap with other Alger addicts for unread titles.

Alger, A Biography Without a Hero, by Herbert R. Mayes, published by Macy-Masius, Inc., in 1928, is a most excellent biography, and lists 119 titles

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Published Monthly at  
821 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas

Edited by  
Ralph F. Cummings, Fisherville, Mass.

"Application for entry as second-class matter is pending"

Price \$2.00 per year

Ad Rates — 6c per word, \$1.00 per inch, quarter page \$2.25, half page \$3.00 and Full Page \$5.00. — 4 times for the price of three.

of books authored by Alger. One that doesn't seem to be listed is *The Young Circus Rider*, published by the John C. Winston Co., although it may also have appeared under another title.

Recently, in the February 10th, 1951 issue of the Saturday Evening Post, was a fine article on Alger, *The Rebellious Parson*, and the authors, Henry F. and Katharine Pringle mention an Alger title I hadn't heard of before, *Timothy Crump's Ward*, one of his earliest.

The John C. Winston Co. published a library edition of Alger that was very attractive, so did the A. L. Burt Co. and David McKay, the latter publishing two Alger titles I've never seen on any other list, *Walter Griffith* and *Mark Stanton*. It sticks in my mind, too, that I've seen Alger books titled, *A Rolling Stone* and *Dan, the Detective*, but it was so long ago, I've forgotten when or where.

In *Randy of the River*, or, *The Adventures of a Young Deckhand* (Grosset & Dunlap), Alger spoke rather unflatteringly of dime novels. A youth named Bob Bangs (not the hero, who is Randy Thompson) is addicted to them: "Stowed away in a trunk, he had a score or more of cheap paper-covered novels, of daring adventures among the Indians, and of alluring detective tales, books on which he had squandered many a dime. One was called 'Bowery Bob, the Boy Detective of the Docks; or, Winning a Cool Million,' and he wanted to finish this, to see how Bob got the million dollars. The absurdity of the stories was never noticed by him, and he thought them the finest tales ever penned." Well, some of Alger's tales were reprinted in *Brave and Bold Weekly*, plenty of them were scattered through *New Medal Library*, and he even had a whole series to himself in *Street & Smith's Alger Series*. The Arthur Westbrook Co. also reprinted Alger stories in its *Boys' Home Weekly*.

Another prolific and well-loved author of those times was G. A. Henty. His fine historical books for boys have been so recently and so thoroughly reviewed in *DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP* that I will not attempt to say more about them here.

Indian stories were once the most popular type of reading matter for boys (and a lot of older readers as well) and nobody wrote with more accuracy and genuine interest of the American Indian than Edward S. Ellis. He had the background for creating frontiersmen and Indians who rang true on the printed page, since his father was a celebrated hunter and rifleman, and Ohio in 1840, where and when the writer was born, certainly was part of the frontier.

Some of his earliest stories were published by Beadle & Co., his deservedly famous Seth Jones, or, *The Captives of the Frontier* appearing in various Beadle publications, the last two times in Beadle's Half Dime Library. He wrote other tales for the Half Dime Library: *Bill Biddon, Trapper*, *Nat Todd, The Frontier Angel*, *The Hunted Hunter* and others, which were reprinted about 1910 by Hurst & Co. in a cloth-bound edition.

For Beadle's New Dime Novels, Ellis wrote, under the pseudonym "Seelin Robins," *Westward Bound*, a novel about the Union Pacific Railroad, and a sequel, *Chinga, the Cheyenne*, also a story of the U. P. and redskin raiders, under his own name, published in Beadle's Pocket Novels. These were penned in the late '60s and very likely were the first tales ever to be printed about the building of the U. P.

Here are more titles by Ellis which first appeared as dime novels, some under his own name, some under pseudonyms:

"Beadle's Frontier Series, reprinted from Munro's 10¢ Novels, *Indian Joe*, by Edward S. Ellis (about the Minnesota Massacre).

*Lives of Great Americans* (Beadle & Adams) *Life and Times of Col. Daniel Boone, the Hunter of Kentucky*, by Edward S. Ellis.

Lives of Great Americans (Beadle & Adams) Life and Adventures of Col. David Crockett, by Edward S. Ellis.

Lives of Great Americans (Beadle & Adams) Life of Pontiac, the Conspirator, by Edward S. Ellis.

Lives of Great Americans (Beadle & Adams) Life of Tecumseh, the Shawnee Chief, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's Dime Novels; The Mohave Captive, or, The Lost Hunters, under pseudonym Charles E. LaSalle.

Beadle's Dime Novels: The Riflemen of the Miami, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's Dime Novels: The Fugitives, or, The Quaker Scout of Wyoming, a Tale of the Massacre of 1778, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's Dime Novels: The Hunter's Cabin, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's New Dime Novels: Oonomoo, the Huron, by Edw. S. Ellis.

Beadle's New Dime Novels: Tahle, the Trailer, or, The Block House, under pseudonym Seelin Robins.

Beadle's New Dime Novels: Burt Bunker, the Trapper, under pseudonym Charles E. LaSalle.

Beadle's New Dime Novels: The Trail Hunters, or, Monowano, the Shawnee Spy, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's New Dime Novels: The Frontier Angel, a Romance of Kentucky Ranger's Life, by Edward S. Ellis. Also published in Beadle's Half Dime Lby.

Beadle's New Dime Novels: The Buffalo Trapper, under pseudonym Charles E. LaSalle.

Beadle's New Dime Novels: Old Kent, the Ranger, or, The Fugitives of the Border, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's New Dime Novels: The Rival Hunters, or, The Forest Garrison, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's Pocket Novels: Carson, the Guide, or, Perils of the Frontier, under pseudonym Lieut. J. H. Randolph.

Beadle's Pocket Novels: The White Tracker, or, The Panther of the Plains, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's Pocket Novels: Irona, or, Life on the Old Southwest Border, by Edward S. Ellis.

Beadle's Pocket Novels: Ben, the Trapper, or, The Mountain Demon, under pseudonym Major L. W. Carson.

Beadle's Half Dime Library: The White Buffalo, under pseudonym Charles E. LaSalle.

Many of the above saw book publication on the Hurst & Co. list, The Ranger, Life of Pontiac, the Conspirator, Irona, Land of Mystery, The Forest Spy, The Trail Hunters, Riflemen of the Miami, Rangers of the Mohawk, The Hunter's Cabin, Oonomoo, the Huron, etc.

Street & Smith reprinted in New Medal Library three stories by Ellis—Wyoming, Storm Mountain and Cabin in the Clearing—which had first seen publication in cloth binding; four others in New Medal, The Haunted Hunter (possibly reprint of Half Dime Library No. 132, though latter title is Hunted Hunter instead of Haunted). The Two Scouts, Among the Redskins and Tracked Through the Wilds, were not, so far as I know, ever issued as cloth-bound books.

Porter & Coates, afterward succeeded by the John C. Winston Co., probably published the longest and most important list of Ellis' justly famous boys' books. Both publishers put out a handsome library edition of their three principal writers—Ellis, Castlemon and Alger—each with a suitable cover design for the particular author, and sometimes introducing new designs as new printings were made. The last cover design by Winston for the Ellis books was one of the best: an Indian and a frontiersman, leaning on rifles and facing each other, with an inset between of two tall trees giving a glimpse beyond of a cabin and a row of stumps, where the settler had cleared land

for his abode and tillage of the soil. Another reason for clearing away brush and timber for a considerable distance on all sides was to minimize the danger of Indians creeping up in rifle-range unseen. Even so, many a settler died clasping his plow-handles, a bullet or feathered shaft in his back, and Ellis could tell you about it realistically. He had a fine literary style.

I still remember the thrill of a certain Christmas morning, long ago, when I opened a gift package containing the three volumes of the Boone and Kenton Series—*Shod With Silence*, *Phantom of the River*, *In the Days of the Pioneers*. The set was given me by my great-aunt, who lived with us, a little old lady with a strong resemblance to Queen Victoria, a very wise and serene woman, never ailing to any extent, never complaining, and useful to the very last day of her long life. She had lived through pioneer times and the Civil War, almost up to the First World War. She used to tell of the time when, as a young girl, her family fled a forest fire in a covered wagon, the canvas cover and the team of horses being thoroughly drenched with pails of water before they started the race against the flames. I can't imagine that she was excited, even in this emergency, although she claimed she was badly frightened. As a teller of tales she had no peer.

It was this grand old lady who fostered my early liking for stories of the frontier, first introducing me to those classic thrillers of Indian and forest ranger, the Leather-stockings Tales. When I started reading the nickel libraries and my parents objected, as parents did in those days while knowing nothing of the subject matter, my great-aunt intervened, read them herself and declared I knew good Americana when I saw it. Result, parental objection removed.

Anyone who has read the Ellis books probably remembers his best Indian character—Deerfoot, the Shawanoe. He was one of the handsomest and ablest warriors who ever trod the forest, skillful beyond compare with bow and arrow, later the rifle, and friend of the white man. He made his initial bow in the Boy Pioneer Series—*Ned in the Blockhouse*, *Ned on the River*, *Ned in the Woods*; was carried through the three succeeding volumes of the Log Cabin Series—*The Lost Trail*, *Campfire and Wigwam*, *Footprints in the Forest*; and finally the Deerfoot Series—*Hunters of the Ozark*, *Camp in the Mountains*, *The Last War Trail*. He “died for the white man” in the last volume of this series.

But nine Deerfoot books were not enough. This Indian hero had taken such hold on boy readers—and adults, too—that there was a clamor for more about him. So, Ellis finally revived him in the New Deerfoot Series, dating the young Shawanoe's adventures, a trip from Ohio to the Pacific, at a period previous to his death in *The Last War Trail*. George and Victor Shelton, featured in the Log Cabin Series, were Deerfoot's companions, and some of the historical characters introduced in the books were Simon Kenton, Daniel Boone, and Lewis and Clark. These were published about 1905, and the John C. Winston Co. went all-out to make three memorable volumes of the original edition. Deerfoot was on the covers, mounted on a black horse, Whirlwind, captured on the prairie. The three volumes were *Deerfoot in the Forest*, *Deerfoot on the Prairies* and *Deerfoot in the Mountains*, each one illustrated with a color plate frontispiece and seven half-tone engravings by J. Steeple Davis. In *Deerfoot on the Prairies* was an excellent illustration of Deerfoot meeting Daniel Boone; in *Deerfoot in the Mountains*, another good one of the Shelton boys talking to Captains Lewis and Clark, who were making their famed expedition across the continent.

The Arizona Series of three volumes concerned the war with the Apaches, led by Geronimo, in 1885, also splendidly illustrated with half-tones and a colored frontispiece in each by Edwin J. Prittie. The titles were *Off the Reservation*, *Trailing Geronimo*, *The Round-up*, *The Overland Series*—Alden, the

Pony Express Rider and Alden Among the Indians—was all about the famed yet short-lived Pony Express, again with Edwin J. Prittie's extra fine illustrations, color plates in front. The Three Arrows and Remember the Alamo, called The Alamo Series, were about the Texan War of Independence, Davy Crockett, Sam Houston and Deaf Smith all appearing in the stories. Illustrations by Prittie, one of them picturing Davy Crockett, famous bear hunter who died at the Alamo, while Deaf Smith, famous Texan scout, is shown in three of them.

Porter & Coates published a fine, illustrated edition of the Wyoming Series (previously mentioned)—Wyoming, Storm Mountain, Cabin in the Clearing—built around the great Wyoming Valley massacre in Revolutionary War times; but apparently the Winston Co. re-issued them only in a cheaper yet attractive edition, selling for 75 cents, the Roundabout Library, which contained some very good Ellis books: Through Forest and Fire, Across Texas, Tam, or, Holding the Fort, Brave Billy, Cruise of the Firefly, Four Boys, A Hunt on Snow Shoes, Honest Ned, Jack Midwood, Limber Lew, the Circus King, On the Trail of the Moose, Righting the Wrong, Brave Tom, or, The Battle That Won, and The Young Conductor.

Other important series by Ellis bearing the Winston imprint were The Forest and Prairie Series—The Great Cattle Trail, the Path in the Ravine, The Young Ranchers, or, Fighting the Sioux; The War Chief Series—Red Eagle, Blazing Arrow, Iron Heart, War Chief of the Iroquois; The Colonial Series—An American King, The Cromwell of Virginia, The Last Emperor of the Old Dominion; The Northwest Series—A Strange Craft and Its Wonderful Voyage, Cowmen and Rustlers, A Story of the Wyoming Cattle Ranges in 1892, Two Boys in Wyoming; The Great American Series—Teddy and Towser, or, Early Days in California, Up the Forked River; The Wilderness Fugitives, The River Fugitives, Lena Wingo, the Mohawk, a series of three about Indian warfare in the Revolutionary War period. A Life of Boone and A Life of Crockett were printed by Winston, and a Life of Carson by Donohue.

Although the frontier was his favorite subject, Ellis wrote of other lands in his Foreign Adventure Series—Lost in the Forbidden Land, River and Jungle, The Hunt of the White Elephant. Then there was the True Grit Series—Jim and Joe, Secret of Coffin Island, Dorsey, the Young Inventor. Also, The Paddle Your Own Canoe Series—The Forest Messengers, The Mountain Star, Queen of the Clouds. The Flying Boys Series (these were later writings, as the subject indicates)—The Flying Boys in the Sky, The Flying Boys to the Rescue; and The Catamount Camp Series—Captain of the Camp, Catamount Camp.

(to be continued)

#### RECENT RENEWALS TO THE ROUND-UP

9. Lacey D. Irwin, Kane, Ill.
20. Robert Frye, 895 Morgan Ave., Schenectay 8, N. Y.
30. P. J. Moran, 619 Santa Ray Ave., Oakland 10, Calif.
49. Thomas W. Figley, Centerburg Public Schools, Centerburg, Ohio.
68. Thomas Hart, 1500 Walnut St., Phila. 2, Pa.
79. E. Marvin Smith, Calera High School, Calera, Ala.
100. Jack Neiburg, 633 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass. (New address)
- \*124. T. Kenneth Meadway, 206 W. 6th Ave., Boyertown, Pa.
128. Bill Newman (A1 Book Stores), 509 N. State St., Chicago 10, Ill.
153. Glenn Garrison, P. O. Box 43, Worthington, Ind.
161. J. W. Martin, 222 C. St., So. San Francisco, Calif. (New address)
171. Roy E. Morris, 801 E. Michigan Ave., Orlando, Fla.
178. Russell S. Bullock, County Road, Essex, Mass.
190. Harry M. St. Clair, P. O. Box 57, Clinton, Ind.
197. John E. Kime, 1409 12th St., Altoona, Pa.
205. Ross R. Devean, 769 Narumbega Drive, Monrovia, Calif.

George Sahr and his wife have returned from Orlando, Florida where they spent a pleasant week with Roy Morris and his wife. While there they saw quite a lot of the country; Roy and his wife taking them to see many points of interest which included a trip to Daytona Beach, the Rock Gardens, the Bok Singing Tower and Cypress Gardens. These are all beautiful places and well worth seeing. Ray and I spent many delightful hours talking about novels and looking over some old timers. Our thanks go to Ray and his wife for a dandy vacation.

### NEWSY NEWS

by Ralph F. Cummings

Newsweek, June 25th, 1951, had a short article called "Boola-Bool," by Jim Walsh, with an illustration of Frank Merriwells New Auto in Tip Top Weekly #542.

Jesse Harriman, 26 Tatman St., Worcester, Mass. (#176) underwent an operation the week of June 24th. He is feeling very good just now, but plenty sore yet.

Glenn Garrison, Worthington, Ind. (#153) has had two deaths in the family, his step father who died last October, and his mother in January. She was 84. We all know how you feel pard, and we all send our sympathy to you.

**FLASH!!** Frisco Bert Couch just sent in a very shocking and sad letter a few days ago:

San Francisco Examiner of July 18, 1951, carried this story:

#### DEATH TAKES H. B. PATTEN Father Was Author of Merriwell Stories.

Stockton, Calif. July 18, 1951 (Associated Press). Harvan Barr Patten, son of the late Gilbert Patten whose stories of Frank Merriwell's adventures sold in more than 125,000,000 copies, died in a hospital here today.

Patten, age 59, had had an operation two weeks ago. He had come here from Vista, Calif. Feb. 1, to manage an installation of the Signal Oil Company.

His father, whose pen name was Burt L. Standish, died in January 1946 at the age of 80. His series of Frank Merriwell stories were published in over 200 books for young people since 1896. He marketed his first fiction when he was 17. His home was at Camden, Maine.

The younger Patten is survived by his widow, Maybelle, and a daughter, Mrs. Gilberta C. Richmond of Auburn California.

Also a letter yesterday from the Frank Merriwell Enterprises, Eagle Lion Studios, 7324 Santa Monica Boulevard, Hollywood 46, California.

Dear Mr. Cummings: 7-26-51. It is with deep regret that I must inform you of the death of Harvan Barr Patten. He died on July 18th, 1951, in Stockton, California, at the age of 59.

I am sure you are familiar with the fact that he was carrying on the great work created by his father, Gilbert Patten. His death is a great loss to us both as a friend and as an advisor.

We are producing the Frank Merriwell stories on film for television exhibition, and it was one of his last wishes that we continue so that the MERRIWELL'S can rise to new and greater heights.

Should you wish to correspond with Mrs. Patten, you can address her in care of our office.

Very sincerely yours,  
H. M. London

It sure was a shock to me, to get these two letters, of the death of our beloved member of Happy Hours Brotherhood. A fine fellow too, for I met him up in Rockland, Maine, a few years ago, when I was up at Bill Burns place. He and a fellow named J. H. Hobbs came over to Rockland and took me to Camden, where his father had first brought out the famous Frank, and later Dick Merriwell stories in the good old Tip Top Library in 1896. We had a fine time up at the Business Mens Club, where the plaque for his great father was hung. Bill Burns had to work, so wasn't able to come with us. That

was the only time I ever met Barr, I'm sorry to say, and it was a rainy day at that. (See Roundup #190).

Here is a clipping that's just come in from Ernest Beique of Saundersville, Mass., that I'm sure is of interest too: Movies find man to play role of Frank Merriwell. 7-1-51. — The movies have found a man to play Frank Merriwell, the fictional athletic hero of Yale University. He is 21 year old Harry Craig, born in St. Louis, Mo. and raised in Dallas, Tex. He will play Merriwell in both movie and television features.

For the younger generation, Merriwell was the creation of novelist Burt L. Standish, whose series of books on Frank's exploits sold more than a million copies, in the early part of the century. An all around athlete, Merriwell sparked Yale teams to victories over Harvard in football, baseball, track and other sports. Producers Tony London and Ira Uhr found Craig in Los Angeles, where he had come to attend the University of Southern California.

All the Happy Hours Brotherhood send their sincerest sympathy to Mrs. Barr Patten, for the loss of her dear husband and friend to the dime and nickel novel collectors of America.

This is just a feeler Pards, but Frank Henry has suggested to me a special Roundup edition, for January 1952, a Birthday Number, with a colored picture on the front cover of some novel, with heavier cover, same size as regular issues. Let's hear what you have to say on this.

Remember pards, the deadline of ads for the Roundup is the 27th of each month, as on the 28th they are sent to the press. So be sure all ads are here by the 27th—get them in early.

Ray McDonald of Bridgeport, Conn. was up here, also L. C. Skinner, of Pawtucket, R. I., the week of July 22nd—Ray is a very nice fellow. Too bad I missed seeing friend Skinner.

See fine serial on Old Boys Books that's just starting in this issue by J. Edward Leithhead. Sure is a fine one, and I know you'll all enjoy it too.

Where the Roundup is published,

Miller Print Shop, Lawrence, Kansas, they've had a very hard time of it, with the great floods they had out there. Let's hope where he was, they didn't get it too bad, but when you are in such a flood, it's bad enough no matter where you are. (The print shop sits high and dry in south Lawrence. The high water was all north and east—Miller.) And let's hope all our other members were fortunate in escaping the flood too: W. E. Bennett, Fritz Moore, Clarence D. Lamb, Edward F. A. Gantner, Alfred A. Hupfeld, Frank O. Hall, James F. Stroecker and Bill Duer. Let's hear the good news from you, Pards.

#### TIP TOP WEEKLY

Bought, sold and exchanged

A large stock on hand, many in the very early issues. Take this opportunity to increase your files of the Merriwell stories. Prices reasonable. All correspondence promptly answered

J. P. GUINON

Box 214 Little Rock, Ark.

#### "SIDE NOTES"

An occasional paper about old books, old printing types, penny dreadfuls, Toy Theatres.

J. A. Birkbeck

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Scotland

#### NOVELS WANTED

Send List, description and price.

George Flbaum

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#### FOR SALE

BEADLES DIME NOVELS #2.—Original, no picture on front cover, yellow back, 1860, The Privateer's Cruise, A Sea Tale of '76, by Harry Cavendish. Pub by Irwin P. Beadle & Co., 141 William St., New York. (A very small piece torn out of lower left hand corner). I've been asked to sell this copy, an extra rare and almost a fine copy. Price \$17.00

RALPH F. CUMMINGS

Fisherville, Mass.